

March 13, 1974

PRESIDENT: Just have to share this with you. When Senator Syas went out the door, he asked me to tread water until he comes back. We were discussing the partisan Legislature this morning when we recessed. We're back to the discussion of that bill this afternoon.

CLERK: Mr. President, the title is read and LB649 this morning and the Syas amendment is yet pending.

PRESIDENT: I guess that's why he wanted me to tread water. Does anybody want to discuss the Syas amendment. Senator Stull, that's actually the issue before the Body.

SENATOR STULL: No, I don't want to but I would like to make a request to have an amendment to LB821 printed in the Journal.

PRESIDENT: An amendment to LB821 printed in the Journal. Are there objections?

SENATOR STULL: I ask unanimous consent.

PRESIDENT: Any objections to the printing of the amendment in the Journal by Senator Stull. Hearing none, so ordered. Will be done. Now, does anybody else want to debate the Syas amendment to LB649, the partisan Legislature issue? Anybody else? Senator Mahoney. The Syas amendment to the partisan Legislature bill.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Senator Syas, do you yield to a question?

SENATOR SYAS: Sure.

PRESIDENT: Senator Syas yields.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Senator Syas, have you ever in the history as the Dean of the Legislature ever supported a partisan Legislature.

SENATOR SYAS: No.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Senator Syas, have you been a delegate or have you ever been a delegate to the Republican County Convention in Omaha, Nebraska?

SENATOR SYAS: Always.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Senator Syas, do you consider yourself to be a true blue-blooded Republican?

SENATOR SYAS: Yes.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Senator Syas.....

SENATOR SYAS: More so than you are a good Democrat.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Senator Syas...and I have to admit, Senator Syas, I have fell by the wayside a time or two but the Lord is repentant and he gives forgiveness and I am now in the party of my choice. Senator Syas, because you are a constitutional lawyer and you defend the faith in the Republican party, it is necessary that I ask you this next question. Isn't it true, Senator Syas, that as you look at the Republican party in Nebraska and from time to time you have not run before..or for various offices, isn't it also true that one of the reasons you don't run is because the party is not strong and vibrant?